

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
APRIL 10, 2006

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer
Absent: Redding

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

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III. NEW BUSINESS

- Kevin Grunwald, Director of Social Services, presented his budget to the Council, noting that it is relatively unchanged from last year. His office includes adult, youth and senior services.

Curt Vincente, Recreation Director, outlined some of the changes in the Recreation budget. A part time parks coordinator position has been moved from a grant position to a general fund position in the proposed budget. On page 149 the amount should read \$1500 across the page.

Mr. Clouette asked if there was an easy way to assess the number of volunteers involved with the Recreation department. The staff will report back.

Mr. Haddad commented that the total number of members is down but the usage is up and requested a breakdown of the number of “pay as you play” participants versus membership participants.

Mr. Vincente pointed out that the reduction in membership fees is offset by a reduction in expenses. This was accomplished by not filling a vacancy, converting some employees to part time positions and holding the line on facility cost as much as possible. He noted that included in this budget is a 5% increase in membership fees.

Mr. Clouette emphasized that approval of this budget, which reflects the 5% increase, does not *suggest* approval of the fee increase that occurs in August.

Mr. Vincente outlined the Issue Paper on the Mansfield Community Center/Department of Parks and Recreation. He suggested the implementation of a three- tier system: a membership program discount rate, a resident non-member regular rate and a non-resident/non-member higher rate.

Ms. Koehn requested an analysis of the current 4 ten- week sessions compared to the possibility of 5 ten- week sessions.

Discussion ensued on the issues presented and will be continued at the next

budget hearing on April 17th.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk